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HERMISTON EXPERIENCING STEADY IMPROVEMENT PERIOD

There seems to be no surcease to the improvement era in Hermiston. It began early in the summer, and the work of constructing substantial business buildings and the laying of concrete walks in the residential and business portions goes steadily on. All this, added to the paving of Main street, which work will soon be under way, will make Hermiston the hub of all the thriving towns in the west end of the county.

With the near completion of the business block on Main street that is soon to be occupied by P. B. Sisson's confectionery store comes the decision of E. W. Mack, proprietor of the Hermiston Drug Co., to have a large addition built on to the rear of Lay's garage, which he recently acquired by purchase from the Happers' Inc. The structure will extend 40 feet back to the alley and 60 feet lengthwise, one story high and constructed of Denison iron-clanking title. Lack of space, both in the mechanical and car storage departments has hastened the decision of Mr. Mack on making this improvement, and work on the addition is to begin right away by August F. Beisse, who has the contract. It is estimated the building will cost in the neighborhood of \$2500, and when completed it will give the proprietors of Lay's garage a better chance to cater to their ever increasing trade.

During the past week sidewalks of planks that were well nigh worn out have given place to those of more modern concrete. Down on Newport avenue John Schimke, Col. G. Newport and others have and are having residential walks laid by a force of men employed by Contractor Henry Notz, and on Main street Contractor Beisse has had his force employed tearing out in front of several business places and replacing with concrete walks.

When the Dairy Show Association buildings in the north end of town have been erected another added improvement to Hermiston will have been consummated, and before winter really sets in a couple of months hence the outlook at present is that there will be several other buildings under course of construction.

Civic Club to Meet

A business meeting of the Civic Club will be held at the library Friday afternoon, October 17, at 2:30, for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. A large attendance is requested, as other important business will be discussed and acted upon.

When Were You Born?

With each year that rolls around you celebrate a birthday but are you positive the day in question is actually the anniversary of the day you were born? Could you go into court, say, and prove the date of your birth except by your own or parent's verbal evidence? Is there any record of your birth except in the family Bible.

It is likely there is no other record and that you could not prove the date beyond a reasonable doubt. Why? Because birth registration is comparatively new in the United States.

Because your own birth is not recorded, however, is no good reason why your children should not have the benefits of birth registration. Washington has a system of birth registration in operation which is approved by the federal government, being one of three states west of the Mississippi river where more than 90 per cent of the births are officially and actually registered, according to the federal census bureau officials.

The bureau of vital statistics, or birth and death registration headquarters, is located in Seattle in the offices of the state board of health. Registrars are located in every community of the state. They receive birth registrations and forward them to the state offices where they are tabulated and the totals sent to the census bureau.

That Washington people often need certified copies of birth certificates is indicated by the fact that 101 persons called for and obtained them.

Sold Small Ranch

The Shawver ranch of five acres situated in the southern part of the city which was owned by F. C. McKenzie, has been purchased by a former Sand Hollow rancher named Aschenhurst. The new owner, who came here early in the fruit season after a load of peaches, became enamored with the Hermiston valley to such an extent that he sold his holdings in Sand Hollow and will come here shortly with his family to live on his small but well improved ranch.

Enjoying His Vacation

Geo. E. Briggs has been taking a vacation this week from his duties as clerk in Kingsley's store and spent his time recreating on his Four Sisters ranch four miles east of this city putting up his third cutting of alfalfa and picking his apple crop. He expects to harvest 1000 boxes of apples this year off his orchard. These consist of the Rome Beauty, Jonathan and Wine-sap varieties.

Sentenced to Two Years

A. C. DeVleming received a sentence of two years in the state penitentiary in the circuit court at Pendleton this week, after having pleaded guilty two weeks ago to having set his farm home northwest of this city on fire in order to gain the insurance. He will be on his way to Salem in a few days to begin serving his sentence.

STARTED STAGE LINE HERMISTON-PENDLETON

A. R. Roberts and B. Robinett of La Grande came here Sunday, and after looking the field over decided to begin the operation of an auto stage line between Hermiston and Pendleton, with the result that the initial trip was made Tuesday.

Both men are thoroughly versed in the overland stage business, and have made the rates very reasonable from this city, Stanfield and Echo to the county seat and return. The stage schedule is 8 a. m. out of Hermiston to Pendleton, and returning it leaves Pendleton at 4 p. m. the same day.

The gentlemen will also make a special effort to work up the parcel carrying trade between the above towns, and at present are very optimistic over the excellent chances for building up big business in the stage line.

HEAVY LAND HOLDER IS PROJECT VISITOR

L. H. Pearson, who with his son William, own 240 acres of partly improved land in the east end of the project, arrived Tuesday to spend a week or more here on business connected with his land interests. He is holding a clerical position in one of the shipyards at Tacoma, and his vacation comes at this time by reason of the shipbuilders being out on strike. Accompanying him were Thomas Young and Mr. Shulte of Seattle, who are here looking over the project with a view to settling.

LOCAL DAIRYMEN WILL BANQUET VISITORS

The Oregon Dairymen's convention will close Saturday night, October 25, with a banquet given by the local dairymen in honor of the visiting dairymen. The banquet arrangements have been made, and it promises to be one to send the visitors away with a warm place in their hearts for Hermiston.

The tickets will be \$2 and will entitle each holder to take a visiting guest. H. K. Dean will have charge of the ticket sale at the Dairy Show grounds. The ticket sale will close Thursday night preceding the banquet on Saturday.

The M. E. Ladies' Aid will meet next Thursday at the home of Mrs. B. F. Strohm.



BOOSTING FOR THE LOCAL DAIRY SHOW

Below is reproduced a circular letter sent out to all its members by the Oregon Dairymen's Association. It certainly is a booster proposition for Hermiston's Annual Dairy Show, giving, as it does, the entire program for the two days session of the association here on October 24 and 25:

"The fall meeting of this Association will be at Hermiston, October 23, 24 and 25, 1919, in connection with the Annual Dairy Cattle and Hog Show. This being the first time this association has ever held a meeting east of the mountains, the Executive Committee is anxious to have a large turn out of Willamette Valley and Coast Dairymen. The region adjacent to Hermiston on a government irrigation project is a rapidly developing dairy section. Pure bred cattle are being introduced, a creamery is maintained and the future is bright. The dairymen of that section are anxious to exchange ideas with those of the more fully developed dairy sections. They feel that they can learn something in the exchange and some of those who are acquainted with the progressive community are of the opinion that it would not be a one-sided exchange.

"A program has been prepared. Practical, well informed men are to speak. R. L. Pabin is a dairyman, attorney, and is tremendously interested in the work of the Oregon Dairy Council which he will tell about. Incidentally he will probably discuss the feeding of cattle for milk production.

"M. S. Schrock (Milke) needs no introduction to the members of the association or the people on the Hermiston project.

"C. L. Hawley is a breeder of Guernsey cattle and Lincoln sheep, president of the Oregon Purebred Live Stock Association since its organization many years ago, vice-president of the Dairymen's Association and a former state senator. The Willamette Valley dairymen know him well, and all others need to.

"Henry McCall is the pioneer breeder of Holsteins east of the mountains and the first Holstein breeder in Oregon to put cows on yearly test. His work is done under extremely practical conditions. He will tell how he manages his cattle under irrigated farm conditions.

"The Walkiki Farm at Spokane is one of the justly famous Jersey herds of the northwest. Mr. Whitney, the manager, has a movie film of herd scenes which will interest all.

"C. C. Dickson of Shedd's, now operator of the herd of J. M. Dickson and Son, has good ideas with reference to pure herd building that have been gained through experience and study. The young breeders will be especially interested in what he has to say.

"Messrs. J. D. Mickle and E. B. Flitts need no further introduction to any group of dairymen in Oregon. Both have sound, intelligent ideas and they can express them in such manner as to be helpful to those who hear them.

"This program is one that no

dairyman can afford to miss. Local plans at Hermiston are in charge of Geo. A. Cressey, second vice-president of the Dairymen's Association and Mr. Fred Bennion, County Agricultural Agent of Umatilla County, which assures smooth working arrangements. This meeting will come in just right for your fall vacation. Try to attend.

"The time and place of the Annual meeting of the Oregon Dairymen's Association will be decided during the week at Hermiston."

Directors Hold Meeting

The board of directors of the West Extension Irrigation District met Tuesday and Wednesday at the reclamation offices in this city. The members sat as a board of equalization, and during the sessions transacted routine business.

New Battery Charger

A Tungar Rectifier, a machine that will charge 20 batteries at one and the same time, was installed Tuesday of this week in Lays Garage. This new addition fills a long felt want in the battery department of the institution.

TOM CORWINE GREAT ENTERTAINER

Possesses Remarkable Powers of Imitation and Mimicry.

Tom Corwine is prince among entertainers. He fills every minute with fine fun and laughter. All that he does is original. He imitates no one and no one can imitate him successfully. The Joliet Daily News says:



"Tom Corwine has the most marvelous throat in existence. He is a living wonder, possessing four distinct throats in one, so that he can make a concordance of sounds that no other voice has ever accomplished." He imitates birds, animals and mechanical contrivances with a perfection that is uncanny.

His humorous sketches are irresistibly laughable and have won for him a nation-wide reputation.

Houses are in demand, and anyone having a habitable residence anywhere on the project can secure a reasonable rental if they will inform E. P. Dodd, who will send tenants free of charge.

O. A. C. PRESS EDITOR SEES THINGS DURING VISIT HERE

Lots of Pheasants

The hunting season on pheasants has been open all this week, and hunters report the birds to be numerous. There were "shooters" from all sections of the county and elsewhere in this neck of the project bright and early last Sunday morning, and there are still many from the outside joining the local sportsmen in quest of this game bird. Tomorrow (Sunday) night the season on the chinks close for another 12 months.

Turning Out Good Butter

Hermiston Cooperative Creamery is just rolling out good butter these days, for all of which a market, both local and foreign, is readily found. Many new improvements have been made in the institution recently by Clark Mansfield, the buttermaker, and more are in prospect.

One Fatal Accident

The opening of the pheasant season last Sunday was responsible for the death of Mrs. Gilman Folsom, wife of a rancher near Pendleton, who received a full load of shot in the breast from the accidental discharge of a shotgun as she leaned against an auto. In the machine was her nephew, who with others had just returned from the hunting grounds. In the rear seat reclined the gun, and as the lady stood there inviting the boys to stay to dinner it is supposed some jar to the machine caused the gun to explode. The horribly injured woman was rushed with all speed to St. Anthony's hospital, where she expired shortly after the accident on the operating table.

MONTANA MAN PLEASSED WITH ACTIVITIES HERE

Dan McKenty, who away back in 1910 shortly after the government opened up this project, came here from Montana and secured 27 acres of choice land a short distance southwest of Hermiston, paid a visit to the ranch the latter part of last week.

Mr. McKenty is a Great Northern railroad conductor who makes his home in Havre, and it has been a year or over since he was here last on an annual visit. During the time he has owned the land he has each year had improvements made on the place, until now a large part of it is in alfalfa and also six to seven acres in fruit.

W. L. Swan has been operating the place this year for him in connection with his own ranch, and the gentleman from the nearby mining state was much pleased with the way it is being handled. Time was during the past ten years that Mr. McKenty would have liked to dispose of the ranch—but this notion went glimmering with his visit this time, for he quickly discerned what a bright future is in store for this project, and he now intends to hold on to it and some time not far distant come here with his family and lead the life of a happy farmer.

OPERATED ON FOR ACUTE APPENDICITIS

Suddenly taken down with appendicitis Thursday evening of last week, Mrs. R. C. Challis was taken to St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton Friday, accompanied by Mr. Challis. Immediately after arrival there the operation for the removal of the appendix was successfully performed. But it was not a moment too soon, for the appendix had burst en route, and the physician declared that had there been another hour's delay Mrs. Challis could not survive.

Though very weak, the patient is getting along nicely at present, and all indications point to her rapid recovery.

Weather Report

The maximum temperature for the past week was 85 degrees and the minimum .27. No rainfall.

"The value of farm crops on the Hermiston project has increased by a yearly average of almost the total value in 1911, as shown in the forthcoming report of H. K. Dean, Superintendent of the Umatilla Experiment Farm," said C. J. McIntosh, agricultural press editor of the O. A. C., in an interview with the editor of The Herald the other day while he was here on a visit to the station.

"The 1911 crop was valued at \$58,795. The 1918 crop at \$339,976. This increase came not only from increased acreage but also from the addition of 106 new farms to the project. Higher yields and prices were other favorable factors.

"The population grew steadily throughout this period, with entire absence of 'ballooning,' as shown in the report figures. It has hardly kept pace with the rapid growth of crop values, but the most marked increase was in 1918. Figures for the current year are not yet available."

This project, thinks Mr. McIntosh, offers an excellent opportunity to returned soldiers who want to make a home on a farm where the home and social life will be congenial, especially as the project is enlarged by the addition of new irrigable units.

The horticultural resources of the district on the higher levels and protected, air-drained slopes were said to be most unusual. Although the unlooked for power of the soil and climate to produce alfalfa and general farm crops has given first place to farm field crops, Mr. McIntosh expressed the belief that horticulture will always hold an important secondary place in the project's farming system.

"Take the Hart orchard in the Hermiston suburbs as a case in point," exclaimed the delighted visitor. "I have never before seen so many first grade commercial apples grow on equal tree area. His winter Bananas and Winesaps are worth coming miles to see. I counted the fruit on one limb and found 158 Winesaps of wonderful size, color and uniformity. I think fully 80 percent were of first class commercial quality. Many of these apples measured three inches in diameter."

That field crops with livestock holds the premier place on the project was Mr. McIntosh's impression, gained by observation and from farm station records. Alfalfa is king of the money makers, and while the maximum yields are high the average yield is considerably below what it can be made by better use of water, crop rotation, livestock and green and stable manure. This is shown both by farm practice and station tests. It is in the solution of these dominant problems that the station superintendent is now engaged.

"It is neither good soil practice nor good farm business to 'carry all your eggs in one basket,' Mr. McIntosh quoted. "Alfalfa is the biggest but not the only profitable crop. Pastures on heavier soils, corn and sunflowers for silage to feed the dairy cow, grain and peas to finish off the hogs, are promising rotation crops.

"Hermiston property is inevitably bound up with agricultural prosperity, and that prosperity is assured if modern methods of farming—production and management—are followed. The station farm exemplifies these methods and the encouragement will make their... ing p.k."

Mr. McIntosh came over from the Union branch and later left for the Moro station. He is deeply interested in the Hermiston project and expects to return and make a... ther study of its progress.

Apple Stealing Starts

A. E. Koub reported the theft of 22 boxes of apples from the Bros. orchard on the West Side Wednesday night. The... were cute enough to leave the... vehicle on the county road, where they loaded the boxes... from the orchard. Other... thefts has been reported from... parts of the project, and an... becoming a yearly occurrence... are devising ways and means... the apprehension of the culprits.